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(54) METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PERFORMING AUTOMATED REGRESSION TESTS IN A STATE-DEPENDENT DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM

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(57) ABSTRACT

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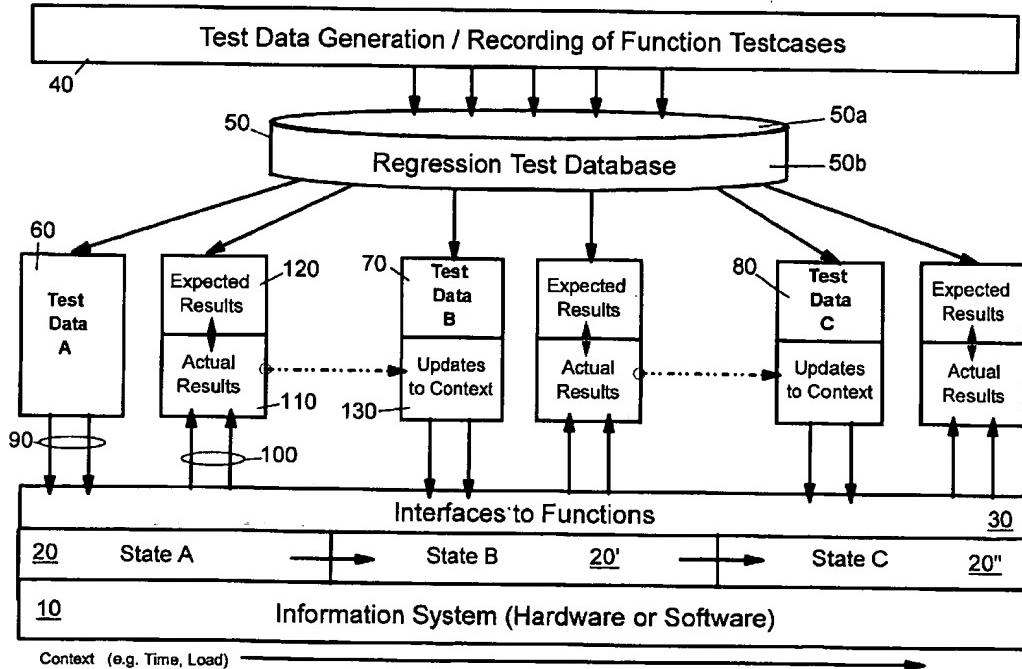
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Disclosed are a method and system for performing regression tests in a state-dependent data processing environment where data are processed by means of at least one function having a signature of defined parameters and corresponding values. A regression test is performed using at least one pre-determined set of test data and one pre-recorded function test case corresponding to said signatures and being used to execute said at least one pre-recorded function test case. The proposed mechanism particularly comprises the step of adapting said at least one function test case or said at least one set of test data to any changed signatures caused by a state transition of said data processing system. The mechanism thus provides automated regression tests in such a data processing environment and enables re-execution of a regression test in a changed context of the underlying data processing environment.



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ABSTRACT:

Disclosed are a method and system for performing regression tests in a state-dependent data processing environment where data are processed by means of at least one function having a signature of defined parameters and corresponding values. A regression test is performed using at least one pre-determined set of test data and one pre-recorded function test case corresponding to said signatures and being used to execute said at least one pre-recorded function test case. The proposed mechanism particularly comprises the step of adapting said at least one function test case or said at least one set of test data to any changed signatures caused by a state transition of said data processing system. The mechanism thus provides automated regression tests in such a data processing environment and enables re-execution of a regression test in a changed context of the underlying data processing environment.

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Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX (7):

[0006] More particularly, the above approach provides a test management program connected to a test case database that creates a test template. Uncovered errors are documented and identified as so-called 'Modification Requests' (MRs). The programmer modifies the source file(s) of the program in order to correct the identified errors. The programmer also designs a test that may be applied to a master program when it is recompiled to substitute the modified source file(s). The test is designed to test the master program to determine if the errors documented in the MR is actually be corrected. In particular, it is therein proposed that only those test cases associated with the source file(s) that have been changed and thus associated with the corresponding MR(s) are invoked to regression test the recompiled master program. The mentioned process of updating the source code is done parallel with the updating of the test code.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (93):

[0128] It should be mentioned that the invention is generally applicable to any regression test of context dependent systems which require dynamic updates on the test data during runtime. For all systems with function interfaces that are defined in a level of detail required for the above described automatic update algorithm, a system independent test apparatus can be build. This

apparatus just have to implement the technical interface of the system and does not require any enhancements for the logically changes of the systems interfaces. All regression tests during a typical life-cycle of a system can be accomplished just by replacing the test data with new function tests for any changed or new function. The test apparatus itself does not need to be maintained anymore.